

WE CLAIM:

- 1 1. A magnesium salt of rabeprazole.
- 1 2. The salt according to claim 1, which is rabeprazole hemimagnesium.
- 1 3. The salt according to claim 1 or 2, which is in a hydrated form.
- 1 4. The salt according to claim 1 or 2, which is in an amorphous form.
- 1 5. A process for preparing rabeprazole magnesium, which comprises contacting
2 rabeprazole or its sodium salt with magnesium salt of an acid in a solvent, to form
3 rabeprazole magnesium, wherein the process is carried out in the presence of a base when
4 rabeprazole is used.
- 1 6. The process according to claim 5, wherein the magnesium salt of an inorganic acid
2 is used.
- 1 7. The process according to claim 6, wherein the magnesium salt is selected from
2 magnesium chloride, magnesium nitrate, magnesium sulphate, magnesium phosphate,
3 magnesium carbonate, or magnesium dihydrogenphosphate.
- 1 8. The process according to claim 5, wherein the magnesium salt of an organic acid is
2 used.
- 1 9. The process according to claim 8, wherein the magnesium salt is selected from
2 magnesium oxalate, magnesium acetate, magnesium lactate, magnesium succinate,
3 magnesium citrate, or magnesium tartrate.
- 1 10. The process according to claim 5, wherein the base is selected from alkali metal
2 hydroxides, alkali metal carbonates, or alkali metal bicarbonates.
- 1 11. The process according to claim 10, wherein the base is selected from sodium
2 hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, sodium carbonate, potassium carbonate, or sodium
3 bicarbonate.
- 1 12. The process according to claims 5, wherein the solvent is selected from water,
2 alcohol, ketone, ester, ether, nitrile, dipolar aprotic solvent, or hydrocarbon or mixtures
3 thereof.
- 1 13. The process according to claim 12, wherein the solvent is selected from methanol,
2 ethanol, propanol, acetone, methyl isobutyl ketone, ethylacetate, dioxan, tetrahydrofuran,
3 acetonitrile, dimethylsulfoxide, dimethylformamide, hexane, or toluene or mixtures

4 thereof.

1 14. The process according to claim 5, wherein rabeprazole magnesium precipitates
2 spontaneously from the solvent.

1 15. A process for preparing rabeprazole magnesium, which comprises reacting
2 rabeprazole with magnesium alkoxide in an alcohol.

1 16. The process according to claim 15, wherein magnesium alkoxide is generated in
2 situ by refluxing magnesium metal in the corresponding alcohol.

1 17. The process according to claim 15, wherein magnesium alkoxide is selected from
2 magnesium methoxide, magnesium ethoxide, magnesium propoxide and magnesium
3 isopropoxide.

1 18. The process according to claim 15, wherein the alcohol is selected from methanol,
2 ethanol, propanol or isopropanol.

1 19. The process according to claim 5 or 15, wherein rabeprazole hemimagnesium is
2 formed.

1 20. The process according to claim 5, 15 or 19, wherein a hydrated form of
2 rabeprazole magnesium is obtained.

1 21. The process according to claim 5, 15 or 19, wherein an amorphous form of
2 rabeprazole magnesium is obtained.

3 22. A method for treating or preventing gastrointestinal ulcers, which comprises
4 administering to a patient in need thereof an effective amount of rabeprazole magnesium.

1 23. The method according to claim 22, wherein rabeprazole magnesium is used for
2 healing of erosive or ulcerative gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD); maintenance of
3 healing of erosive or ulcerative GERD; healing of duodenal ulcer; or treatment of
4 pathological hypersecretory conditions, including Zollinger-Ellison Syndrome.

1 24. The method according to claim 22, or 23 wherein rabeprazole hemimagnesium is
2 administered.

1 25. A pharmaceutical composition for use in the treatment or prevention of
2 gastrointestinal ulcers comprising an effective amount of rabeprazole magnesium and
3 pharmaceutically acceptable excipients.

1 26. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25, wherein rabeprazole

2 hemimagnesium is used.

1 27. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25, or 26 wherein a hydrate of
2 rabeprazole magnesium is used.

1 28. The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 25, or 26 wherein an
2 amorphous form of rabeprazole magnesium is used.